

Appl. Serial No. 10/742,899
Amendment dated April 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes the proposed addition, for the purpose of illustration and clarity, of certain reference numerals to Figs. 1, 6a, 6b, 6c, and 6d. A set of replacement drawings (10 sheets) is submitted herewith.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Appl. Serial No. 10/742,899
Amendment dated April 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2005

opening in direct vicinity of the inlet opening of the discharge channel for the product to be delivered." (page 4, lines 1-9) When the headpiece is returned by spring 7 to its initial first position relative to the piston 5 (Fig. 6d), the upper bushing surface 31b again closes the piston outlet openings 58.

As stated in the specification on page 19, lines 16-26, the two embodiments of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 7 offer the advantage "that the delivery channel openings 58 will only be exposed in the delivery channel 32 after a relative movement between the headpiece 3 and the pressure piston 5. For a delivery of the paste-like product from the delivery chamber towards the product discharge opening 32a it is not necessary that the internal pressure first built up in the delivery chamber 100 should be exploited for opening a non-return valve positioned therebehind in the direction of delivery. Accordingly, the paste-like product can be delivered by applying a small force. Furthermore, the two aforementioned embodiments offer the advantage that the paste-like product is pulled back in the discharge channel 32 in a direction opposite to the delivery direction upon actuation of the headpiece...."

Applicant respectfully contends that the present invention as recited in the amended claims is clearly distinguishable from the teachings of the cited Czech patent No. 4,685,594. In this reference, the actuator cap 7 is biased upwardly by spring 36 toward the initial position of Fig. 2. When in this condition, the slot 33 in the dispenser piston 22 is open and in communication with the communication space 37 and the pump chamber 15. "As actuator cap 7 is now depressed against the biasing force of return spring 36 to be displaced axially downwardly on outer guide section 6, tube portion 17 of actuator cap 7 is moved downwards by a distance corresponding to the axial length of first cylinder recess 26, while dispenser piston 22 including guide tube 23 is kept stationary by the action of frictional forces and by the mass of the paste-like product contained in pump chamber 15... The displacement of tube portion 17 relative to guide tube 23 at the same time results in the obturation of slot 33 in the manner of a slide valve control, whereupon end rim 32 comes into contact with the rear face of dispenser piston 22 to act as an actuator element for dispenser piston 22." (column 5, line 54 to column 6, line 3) Thus, the structure and operation of the Czech dispenser is